



Attorney Docket No.: 1016US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Graupe, *et al.*

Application No.: 10/035,783

Group Art Unit: 1626

Filed: Dec. 24, 2001

Examiner: Shiao, R.

Title: NOVEL COMPOUNDS AND COMPOSITIONS AS CATHEPSIN INHIBITORS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE

This is in response to an Office Action mailed December 24, 2003, for which a response was due on January 24, 2004. Enclosed under separate cover is a petition for a 2-month extension of time.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Applicants responded to a four-way restriction requirement (Restriction Requirement I) on May 5, 2003 by election with traverse. Restriction Requirement I was maintained in a second office action and the Applicants subsequently filed a petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.144. The Applicants' petition was granted and the matter was remanded for further action. Upon remand, the Examiner presented the Applicants with an eleven-way restriction requirement (Restriction Requirement II).

The Applicants herein elect Group I of Restriction Requirement II and further elect the species disclosed on page 546, lines 9 and 10, of the specification, namely 2-(2-difluoromethoxy-